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Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Cyprus, Dominica, Greece, Grenada, Haiti, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname: draft resolution

Indigenous people and issues

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/22 of 28 July 2000, in which the Council established the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues,

Recalling also its resolution 56/140 of 19 December 2001 on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, in which it welcomed Economic and Social Council decision 2001/316 of 26 July 2001 concerning the Permanent Forum,

Taking note of the report of the Permanent Forum on its first session, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 13 to 24 May 2002,[1]

Bearing in mind the special nature of the Permanent Forum as a global focal point for promoting cooperation among States and indigenous peoples, in particular, with regard to the implementation of international policies, commitments and action plans on indigenous peoples and sustainable development,

1. *Invites* the Secretary-General to establish, within the framework of the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to be established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/___, the post of Special Adviser, in order, inter alia, to provide independent advice and substantive assistance to the secretariat in carrying out its mandate in a successful and fruitful manner;

2. *Looks forward* to the appointment of a qualified person of high standards, integrity and independence, who would work pro bono and whose appointment would thus have no financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations, and who is also very familiar with the United Nations system, has over a decade of experience with and significant knowledge of indigenous issues and has previously served as an expert in this respect.

[1] E/2002/43 (Parts I and II)-E/CN.19/2002/36 (Parts I and II).

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